

*( approved at the July 2010 meeting)*

## MURA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

April 13, 2010

**Attendees:** Barton Boyle, Marlene Duffield, Nan Erickson, Kee Groshong, Libby Miederhoff, Darlene Miles, Jack Miles, John Parker and G.B. Thompson.

President Boyle called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and distributed the meeting agenda, the January 26, 2010, Board of Directors meeting minutes, and a financial report.

President Boyle asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the January 26, 2010 Board meeting. Hearing none, he requested a motion to approve the minutes. A motion to approve was made by G. B. Thompson, seconded, and carried unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Gary Zwonitzer was absent but provided a financial report covering the period July 1, 2009, to March 31, 2010. President Boyle reported a checkbook balance of \$8603.99 and was especially pleased to report that our total of other assets has grown over \$10,000 since June 30, 2009, for a current total of \$57,928.92. The report was accepted.

### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Program** – Jack Miles reported there are 33 reservations for the spring picnic, and speakers being considered for next year's programs include the new university human resources officer, the mayor, city manager, and State Senator Schafer.

**Retirement, Health, and Other Benefits** – Al Hahn, who was absent, sent a report to the Board indicating that at the present time the analysis of the National Health Care Reform Legislation will have no negative effect upon the retirees' health plan.

**Awards** – Darlene Miles reported that the committee recommended to the Chancellor the name of Bob Marshall to receive the Faculty Retiree Award and Joyce Lake to receive the Staff Retiree

Award. She indicated that effort should be initiated early and continue throughout the year to identify retirees who should be nominated for these awards. The awards are prestigious; the awardees receive nice recognition and a generous prize.

**EX-OFFICIO, AD-HOC AND OTHER:**

**Historian** – G. B. Thompson reported the recent death of George Shelton, a former MURA president. Gary Smith is pursuing how many of the sets of MURA minutes have been electronically recorded and a report will follow.

**Audit** – Libby Miederhoff reported that the audit will be conducted in July after the close of our fiscal year, June 30, 2010.

**Staff Council** – Marlene Duffield and Libby Miederhoff reported that at the last meeting there was extensive discussion of the need for staff to have data available to support requests for salary increases for staff. It was not clear what kind of data was being suggested, and it was our representative's feeling that the HR department had extensive information concerning salary and wages in the local market. They also reported that the Faculty Council had supported the granting of employee benefits to employee same-sex partners. However, the Staff Council members present did not vote on this issue because they did not know the details of the resolution.

**Breakfast Program** – John Parker reported that Rod Gelatt will give the May 4<sup>th</sup> presentation and that Jerry Taylor will speak in the fall on Genomics. He also indicated there would be a program referred to as Chautauqua at the Lake in August with the subject being Great Theologians. John reminded the Board of the Thailand Teaching Positions exchange that involved a number of MURA members and that this should be embraced and continuation assured. He also indicated the Fulbright Foundation wished to involve us in the identification of

worthy candidates. President Boyle asked John to report to the Board after he returns from Thailand in July.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

President Boyle reviewed the Chancellor's letter of invitation to the Retirees Luncheon, and it is scheduled for distribution around April 17.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

President Boyle announced that after 10 years of exemplary service, Gary Smith wished to retire from the University Liaison Committee. The incoming president, Jack Miles, the incoming president-elect, Nan Erickson, and President Boyle recommended submitting the name of Jo Behymer to assume responsibility of University Liaison Committee. A motion to submit Jo's name was made by John Parker, seconded, and approved by acclamation.

President Boyle introduced the issue of the length of committee appointments, both MURA committees and the Chancellor's standing committees. He reported that MURA appointees to the Chancellor's standing committees serve without limitation of their tenure with the exception of the Retiree Health and Other Benefits Advisory committee. Those appointments are limited to a specific number of years. He reported that the MURA Bylaws, in Section 7, - Committee Appointments, states "The terms of office of standing committees shall be concurrent with that of the president." He reported that as the Bylaws were being revised several years ago, it was felt that committee members should serve at the pleasure of the President and their terms on committees should not extend into another administration. President Boyle suggested for the Board's consideration that committee tenure be established at two years. During the discussion, opinions were expressed that suggested the responsibilities were only learned in the first year and limited further service prevented any meaningful contribution to the

committee efforts. Some members felt that three years would be a more appropriate appointment length. It appears that MURA has the freedom to establish the ultimate length for the MURA representation on the Chancellor's standing committees, but that changing from the one-year appointment for MURA committees established in the Bylaws would require a vote of the membership. The suggestion was made that at any point in time the President, the president-elect or the incoming president-elect could agree to appointments that would have a length of two years to allow for more meaningful committee contribution. The Board decided to take no action on this issue at this meeting and to defer discussion until the July meeting.

President Boyle advised the Board that the Bylaws, Section 8, call for the chair of each committee to annually prepare a written report to the President. He will notify the committee chairs.

President Boyle thanked Marlene Duffield and Kee Groshong for their years of service; their terms expire June 30.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nan Erickson